The City Lands in Lambeth.—Sir: The notice in your paper of 23rd December last has brought down the ire of the officers, who have visited the principal tenant with a distress-warrant for rent only due at Christmas, scarcely asked for, and that before the usual time, as a terror to other complainers about drainage. Here, at Lambeth, is land forming at one time part of the Marsh overflowed by the tide (built on under leases by those who foolishly thought sixty-one years could never arrive), which is covered with property placed on it by others, and yielding to the landlord—the city of London—thousands a-year, and yet they are so narrow-minded as to refuse draining any of the houses into the common sewers at their expense; and those tenants who endeavour to point out to them the propriety and necessity of it are visited with the revengeful spirit above described. It is said the city has been a great obstacle to the salutary measures required for health, and this instance would seem to prove that it is truly said; for here is a case of the direst necessity treated with the meanest harshness, because it is brought under their notice. I inclose my card.—Another Sufferer.

Builders' Foremen's Institution.—In reference to the report of the annual dinner of the Provident Institution for Builders' Foremen, which appeared in your last publication, I beg you will add the following handsome donations:—Mr. Cooper, 2*l.* 2s.; Mr. Stirling, 2*l.* 2s.; Mr. W. Trego, 2*l.* 2s.; Messrs. Luard and Beedham, 2*l.* 2s.; Mr. Lee, 2*l.* 2s.; Mr. Taylor, 2*l.* 2s.; Patent Lava Metallic Company, 2*l.* 2s.; Mr. Husler, 2*l.* 2s.; Mr. Dowell, 2*l.* 2s.; The Chairman, 1*l.* 1s.; Mr. Withall, 1*l.* 1s.; Mr. T. Eden, 1*l.* 1s.; Mr. Edw. Eyre, 1*l.* 1s.; Mr. C. Haynes, 1*l.* 1s.; Mr. Brown, 1*l.* 1s.; Mr. Rose, 1*l.* 1s.; Mr. Manuche, 1*l.* 1s. Several of the donors gave in their names as contributors of one guinea per annum to the provident fund. The stewards are anxious publicly to return their sincere thanks to the numerous donors and friends who responded to their invitation, and beg to assure them they close their labours with a deep sense of gratitude for the honour conferred on them by so respectable and numerous an attendance; and also for the very great assistance contributed to the Provident Fund for the Benefit of Aged and Decayed Builders' Foremen.—W. Allard, Secretary.

Elaborate Silver Vase in the Etruscan Fashion.—A German workman (Antoine Vechte) in the employment of Messrs. Hunt and Roskell, has lately completed an alto-relievo richly wrought or embossed silver vase, the result of three years' labour, and mainly representing, in anatomical and other forms, the destruction of the Titans by Jupiter. The shape is Etruscan, of elegant contour. It is about 32 inches in height, with a cover and two handles, and measures from handle to handle 13½ inches. Round the body of the vase are numerous groups of giants, climbing, falling, &c., while the handle or knob of the cover is in the form of Jupiter Tonans. Every portion of the surface is wrought in different grades of high and low relief. The article was commissioned by the artist's employers, and is on sale for 2,000*l.*

Town Hall for Cork.—A town hall is about to be erected in Cork, but there seems to be some difficulty in finding an appropriate site. A laudable anxiety is manifested in the city that the building should be worthy the age, and well placed.

Decoration of the Queen's Robing Room.—The eighth report of the Commission on the Fine Arts, which has just been published, informs us, that the commission is ready to enter into an agreement with Mr. W. Dyce, R.A., for the decoration of her Majesty's robing-room in the palace at Westminster, with fresco illustrations of the legend of King Arthur. Mr. Dyce undertakes to complete certain stipulated works within a period of six years, for which he is to be remunerated (as proposed) at the rate of 800*l.* a-year.

Plan of Clapham, Surrey.—Messrs. A. and R. Bland, Charlton, Kent, have just now completed an engraved plan of the parish of Clapham, in the county of Surrey, on a large scale.* It shews every house, gives a section, and is altogether a nice thing.

* Published by Batten, Clapham Common.

Proposal for a Statue for Jenny Lind.—A correspondent, "W. Tomlinson," of Norwich, proposes that the inhabitants of that city should testify their gratitude to this lady (not more distinguished by her vocal power than by her benevolence and goodness), by erecting a statue to her, and he offers a subscription of 5*l.* towards it. A proposition at present current in Norwich, to place a picture of Miss Lind in St. Andrew's Hall, he does not think a sufficient return for the immense assistance to the local charities afforded by her. If not a statue, he suggests a commemorative window in the cathedral.

Architectural Exhibition.—The exhibition of architectural works determined on by "The Architectural Association," is fixed to take place in March next, at the gallery of the new Society of Painters in Water Colours, in Pall Mall. The committee will be prepared to receive, during the latter part of the present month, drawings of works contemplated or in progress; designs submitted in competition during the year; studies and delineations of existing buildings and antiquities, and architectural models. The drawings should be either in frames or upon strainers. Considering the elevation of their art, by the diffusion of taste amongst the public, to be no less an object than the direct advantage of the profession, the society have determined to constitute the exhibition *free*, with the exception of Saturdays. We hope they will receive the cordial co-operation of the profession.

Rating of Railway Property.—Endeavours are being made by the principal railway companies to obtain a remission of local taxation; they complain greatly of the present system of assessments. A deputation of the chairmen of some of the companies had an interview lately with the chief Poor-law Commissioners on the subject. According to *Heraputh*, the ten principal railways pay, on the average, the following sums per acre per annum for parochial taxes:—London and North-Western, 13*l.* 6s.; Great Western, 9*l.* 16s.; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 14*l.* 10s.; Midland, 7*l.* 6s.; York and North Midland, 5*l.* 14s.; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 4*l.*; Eastern Counties, 4*l.* 12s.; South-Western, 7*l.* 16s.; Brighton, 10*l.* 14s.; Dover, 14*l.* 6s.

Railway Compensation.—Lancaster and Carlisle Railway.—According to the local paper, a trial took place, January 23, at Carlisle, before a special jury, to assess the value of six acres of land belonging to the Maryport and Carlisle Railway Company (now in the possession of Mr. Hudson), but which were required by the Lancaster and Carlisle Railway Company. Mr. Hudson, on behalf of the Maryport Company, first demanded 100,000*l.*; he then called about a dozen witnesses, who valued it at sums varying from 75,000*l.* to 79,800*l.* The Lancaster and Carlisle Company had previously offered 7,005*l.* for the land. The jury, after two days' investigation, gave a verdict for 7,171*l.* Can this be *correct?* We run no risk of being in error when we answer, no.

Preservation of Timbers.—A contemporary says,—that in taking down, a few years ago, in France, some portion of the ancient chateau of the Roque d'Ondres, it was found that the extremities of the oak girders, lodged in the walls, were perfectly preserved, although these timbers were supposed to have been in their places for upwards of 600 years. The whole of these extremities buried in the walls were completely wrapped round with plates of cork. When demolishing an ancient Benedictine church at Bayonne, it was found that the whole of the fir girders were entirely worm-eaten and rotten, with the exception, however, of the bearings, which, as in the case above mentioned, were also completely wrapped round with plates of cork. These facts deserve to be inquired into.

Pin-holes in Iron.—A correspondent from Sheffield says,—Can any of your scientific correspondents inform me what will prevent metal castings ¼ of an inch thick from the cupola, from being, when ground and got up bright, full of small pin-holes? Pig-metal from nearly all the blast furnaces in the three kingdoms, has been tried and variously mixed, but none appears free from them. If any composition or material can be named to prevent it, it will confer a lasting benefit on iron-founders.

Projected Works.—Advertisements have been issued for tenders, by 26th inst., for building a new grammar school at Lichfield; by 20th, for the repair and restoration of the chancel and chancel aisles of the Collegiate Church of Wimborne Minster, Dorset; by 12th, for the erection of offices and workshops for the Liverpool United Gas Company; by 18th, for the whole works in building a new market-hall and corn-exchange at Lichfield; by same date, for the whole works in building a new savings' bank at Lichfield; by 23rd, for the maintenance of the permanent way of the Chester and Holyhead Railway; by 15th, for the execution of a viaduct in St. Pancras Parish; by 1st March, for the supply of 20 cattle waggons of East-India teak for the Great Northern Railway; by 3rd May, for supplying the Government dock-yards with cast-iron articles for twelve months' certain; and by a date not specified, for a condensing engine of 12 to 16-horse power, and one of 6 to 8-horse power, 30 tons of rails, and 160 feet of 9-inch pumps, at Leeds.

Election of the City Commissioners to the Metropolitan Court of Sewers.—On Thursday a Court of Common Council was held, when the subject of the appointment of four commissioners to the Metropolitan Court of Sewers, to represent the interests of the City of London, was resumed. On behalf of the Court of Aldermen, the names of Alderman Lawrence and Alderman Humphrey were proposed, but the former was elected by a large majority. Various gentlemen being proposed *seriatim* to fill the offices as members of the Court of Common Council, a very decided show of hands was in favour of Mr. Deputy Harrison and Mr. Deputy Peacock, but the Lord Mayor said the show was so nearly equal between Mr. Norris and Mr. H. L. Taylor, that he was unable to state on whom the choice had fallen. A second show was then taken, which his lordship declared to be in favour of Mr. Norris; therefore the new commissioners are Mr. Alderman Lawrence, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Peacock, and Mr. Norris.

Sir Hans Sloane's Monument.—Happening to pass the old Chelsea church, which stands at the end of Cheyne Walk, Chelsea, where rest the remains of Sir Hans Sloane, I stopped to read the inscription on the monument, which occupies a prominent position in the churchyard, close by the roadside; but, alas, it was with difficulty I could do so; the letters are all but obliterated. The monument itself is simple and imposing, and the inscription appeared to be equally so. Would it not be desirable to call attention to its state in your valuable journal, in order that some of the more public-spirited of the inhabitants of that *locale* may be induced to subscribe a few shillings to have the letters re-cut deep into the stone before it is too late to decipher them?—Antiquary.

Durham College Library and Museum.—For architectural or other remains, a room nearly 200 feet long and of suitable breadth and height, is to be added to the library of the dean and chapter, by the appropriation of some of the old conventual apartments adjoining, vacant by the death of Dr. Wellesley, one of the prebends.

TENDERS

For building of a new Wesleyan Chapel, in Jewin-street City, on the site of the present chapel:—

Williamson	£2,434
Ward	2,320
Ashby	2,260
Smith	2,294
Lawrence	2,265
Jeffrey	2,167
Wood	2,145
Curtis (accepted)	2,048

For the Ewbury Parsonage:—

White, Hythe	£1,302	6	5
Emmett, Southampton	1,185	10	0
Roe, ditto	1,177	0	0
T. Burton, London	1,148	0	0
Wheeler, Cowes	1,140	0	0
Mansith	1,097	0	0
Gover and Son, Winchester	1,093	0	0
Brown, Southton	1,088	0	0

For two houses, Endell-street, St. Giles's. Mr. Harry Oliver, Architect.

T'Anson	£2,319
Piper	2,272
G. Mansfield	2,195
Hayward and Nixon	2,180
Curtis	2,142
Ashby	2,138
Brass and Son	2,078
Locke and Nesham	2,050
Holland (accepted)	2,005

Quantities supplied.

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